GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5658
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2017
NABARD Scheme for Artisans
Nete Shri Ashok Mahadeorao

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has formulated any schemes for rural artisans;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra; and

(c) the details of the financial assistance provided to States/ UTs by NABARD under the schemes during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance

(a): National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that they support and provide marketing platforms to rural artisans and producers to exhibit their traditional art/crafts, and other crafts through interventions/schemes such as sponsoring/organizing exhibitions and melas. NABARD also provide support for strengthening Rural Haats and Rural Marts to facilitate marketing of Off-farm products of the artisans. In addition, NABARD had been implementing Cluster Development Programmes aimed at increasing the income and improving the standard of living of the artisans.

(b) & (c): The details of State-wise (including Maharashtra) number of exhibitions/melas organized during the last three years including the current year along with financial assistance extended as reported by NABARD are given in Annexure I.
Further, NABARD has reported that since inception, till 2012-13 (as on March, 2013) assistance amounting to Rs.23.85 crore has been provided for 387 Rural Haats and 576 Rural Marts across 26 states details of which (including Maharashtra) are given in Annexure II. As regards Cluster Development, NABARD has reported that they have approved a total of 119 clusters across 24 states, details of which (including Maharashtra) are given in Annexure III.